

REPORT

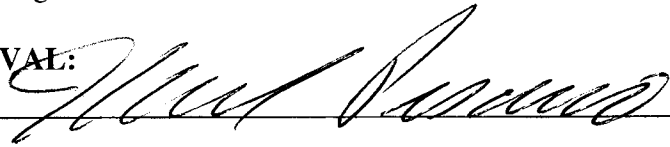
DATE: July 6, 2006

TO: Administration Committee
Regional Council

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SUBJECT: San Fernando Valley Subregion

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Direct the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to facilitate the formation of a subregion in the San Fernando Valley and negotiate a Contracting Cooperative Agreement and all necessary documents.

SUMMARY:

The Los Angeles City Council approved a resolution with concurrence of the Mayor requesting that the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) establish a new subregion composed at a minimum of the portion of the City of Los Angeles situated in the geographic San Fernando Valley.

BACKGROUND:

Councilmember Greig Smith has requested that this item be brought for consideration in to the Administration Committee and Regional Council. The Los Angeles City Council motion (Council File 05-0002-S13) requests that "SCAG establish a new sub-region composed at a minimum of that portion of the City of Los Angeles situated in the geographic San Fernando Valley and as otherwise described in California Government Code Section 11093 (as amended 2004)." In the resolution's recital, the Council refers to establishment of a planning subregion that "conforms to the topography, demography, infrastructure demands, social structure, transportation systems, and urban form of the San Fernando Valley."

The San Fernando Valley is surrounded on all sides by mountain ranges, and separated from the Los Angeles basin by the Santa Monica Mountains. As a result, there is a common interest in planning, infrastructure and housing issues among the local communities and jurisdictions of the Valley including: the County of Los Angeles and the cities of Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, City of Los Angeles and San Fernando.

These cities have worked together for more than ten years as strategic (sponsoring) partners in the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley, including the development of *Vision2020: San Fernando Valley*,¹ a vision that included the formation of the proposed subregion. The proposed cities have each tentatively indicated interest in participation. San Fernando is not currently a member of any subregion.

¹ *Vision2020: The San Fernando Valley*, Report, Van Nuys CA, Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley, February 2002, p.34-36

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This would bring all of the stakeholders in the Highway 101/134/170/405/5/210/118 catchment area together, leading to more coherent transportation/infrastructure planning, and an marked increase in leverage for future funding.

HISTORY:

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) functions as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for six counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura and Imperial; and is mandated by the federal government to research and develop plans for transportation, growth, waste management, and air quality. SCAG establishes planning subregions in the area that conform to topography, demography, and infrastructure demands, and SCAG encourages collaboration among neighboring jurisdictions with common interests.

The San Fernando Valley portion of the City of Los Angeles has unique topography, demography, social structure, transportation systems and challenges, urban form, and infrastructure demands. The Valley needs to plan and manage future development by coordinating between and among neighboring jurisdictions. The City of Los Angeles currently comprises a single subregion extending from the Port of Los Angeles on the south, to the edge of Sylmar on the north, a distance of over 50 miles.

The efforts of the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley (EASFV), the Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA), and other civic support organizations' in the areas of infrastructure, transportation, education, land use and economic development improvements in the San Fernando Valley have been hampered due to the size and form of the current single subregion.

The Valley would benefit greatly from being recognized and managed as a distinct "place." After decades of reform efforts, this arrangement would encourage regional cooperation and enhance the efforts of local leaders and elected officials in tailoring plans for Valley cities, plans better suited to the collective vision of the region's communities.

The San Fernando Valley²

Square Miles:.....	289.4
Population 2000 ³	1,698,135
Population 2005e.....	1,815,960
2000-2005 Annualized Growth Rate	1.5%
2005 Population Density per Sq Mile	6,275

The staff will provide periodic updates on these matters.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact cannot be determined at this time. It is anticipated that when the Continuing Cooperative Agreement with the new subregion is prepared a budget amendment will be considered by the Regional Council.

² *San Fernando Valley Economic Report 2005-2006*, Northridge CA, San Fernando Valley Economic Research Center, Cal State Northridge, October 2005; US Census 2000, California Dept. of Finance

³ Includes Hidden Hills CA